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Vol VIII No 064

2 April 1984

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Lebanon

The IDF closed all crossing points between Israel and Lebanon on both the Al-Awwali River line and the international border in order to tighten security arrangements at the crossing points, Jerusalem radio reported. The move follows the 2 April attack in Jerusalem carried out by "terrorists" who entered Israel from Lebanon, the radio said, and "it is known" that two of the men were residents of Sidon. The DFLP, which claimed responsibility for the operation, announced in Damascus that its forces in Lebanon captured an IDF sergeant whose release will be conditional on the release of the men captured in the Jerusalem attack and various other prisoners held by Israel, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The Israeli soldier, a member of Israel's Druze community, has been missing for a year, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement cited by Jerusalem radio.

Reacting to recent attacks on the IDF in southern Lebanon, Defense Minister Moshe Arens warned Syria in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio that Israel will not accept a war of attrition. The Syrians are able to stop attacks on the IDF originating from the area under their control, Arens noted, and if they attempt such a war, they must be ready for any reaction by us."

Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that seven Israeli soldiers were wounded in an ambush near An-Nabatiyah. In the wake of other recent attacks against the IDF, Israeli troops stormed and searched houses in Sidon and moved more than 240 residents of Jibshit to the Ansar detention camp, the radio said.

In another development concerning the south, Antoine Lahad, a Maronite Christian with the rank of general in the Lebanese Army reserves, will take over as commander of the 2,000-strong southern Lebanese army sponsored by Israel, Jerusalem radio reported.

Beirut radio reported that clashes continued on all combat axes in the capital on 3-4 April. The Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio blamed the cease-fire violations on the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and its allies, but the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio accused the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army of attempting an advance in central Beirut which was "repulsed" by nationalist forces.

Lebanese newspapers cited by Beirut radio announced that President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad have agreed to hold another summit in the near future to discuss matters which still impede implementation of the Lausanne conference resolutions. President al-Jumayyil discussed Soviet policy toward Lebanon with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the radio noted. "Informed political sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AS-SIYASAH* indicated that Al-Jumayyil may ask the Soviet Union to supply Lebanon with arms in view of U.S. reluctance to ship further weapons following the capture of U.S.-made tanks and missiles by the PSP, which handed some of them over to Soviet experts.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in a statement in the YAR reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, described the 2 April operation in Jerusalem as "a message from the Palestinian people, who will not forget the Sabra and Shatila massacre."

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqis have no hope of recapturing Majnun Island, having flooded their only access point in the southern part of the island, President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio.

Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries shot down one of the Iranian Phantoms that raided 'Ali al-Gharbi on 30 March, a military communique carried by Baghdad radio reported. An Indian ship in the Shatt al-Arab was set on fire by Iranian shelling, the communique added.

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Karmal Speaks on Sarandoy Role, Party Unity

LD041019 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this afternoon took part in a meeting of party activists of all units and companies of the DRA Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Babrak Karmal, accompanied by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, and other Politburo members and members of the Central Committee Secretariat arrived at the Salam Khana Palace of the Revolutionary Council Headquarters where the meeting was held at 1500. He was welcomed with revolutionary fervor and enthusiasm. The participants in the meeting gave Babrak Karmal a standing ovation and chanted revolutionary slogans.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from the meeting that Babrak Karmal then made a comprehensive and instructive statement. He began by asking the participants of the meeting to stand up and observe a minute of silence in honor of those heroic sarandoyes who lost their lives in the path of the glorious April Revolution.

Babrak Karmal said: Officers, NCO's, and Internal Ministry troops must know that the PDPA Central Committee, Politburo, and Secretariat, the DRA Revolutionary Council, and the Council of Ministers always and consistently pay special attention to the brave sarandoy of Afghanistan. We must also recall with pride that our sincere friend and brother, the Soviet Union, does not spare any kind of material and moral help for which, on behalf of the PDPA, the DRA state and Government, and on your behalf, I express my profound gratitude and thanks to the Soviet friends.

Comrades, you know that after the April Revolution, as a turning point in the socioeconomic, political, and cultural life of the country, and particularly after the new stage, fundamental changes have occurred in all aspects of the sarandoy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This fact has always been assessed highly in the Politburo, the Central Committee, and the Council of Ministers.

Babrak Karmal added: Before the April Revolution, the sarandoy, or to give them their true name then, police and gendarmes, were the protectors of the interests of a handful, of the minority and exploiting class of the abolished monarchy machinery, and of the fake republic. The police of that time were a tool for the pressure, torture, and persecution of the toiling people of Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal said: In accordance with the theory and practice of liberating revolutions, the first duty of the new

machinery, that is, the sovereignty of the people, is to eradicate all the people torturing machinery. For the first time in the history of our country, after the April Revolution, particularly its new stage, the oppressive police and gendarme forces were eliminated and the foundations for a new sarandoy and a new Ministry of Internal Affairs were laid.

Babrak Karmal said: This meeting has been held to assess the positive aspects of your actions. Your actions will be recorded in the history of the revolutionary movement and the party and state of the new era of the DRA. It is best that we realize our tasks, entrusted to us by the 13th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee.

Babrak Karmal added: It is not possible to defeat the enemy with mere slogans. This war is a class war; this war is being intensified. Reaction and imperialism do not give up easily; they resist, in vain, to losing their power. It is the deep voice of the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan, it is the voice of the revolution and the voice of our party and state, it is the voice of our duty and our homeland to fight against the enemy in the hot crucible of class struggle. Our weapon, our power, the secret of our victory, and the major factor for the victory of our revolution are concentrated in one point, and that is the strength of our party. History has proved that without a strong party with steel-like discipline and with unity of will, theory, and action, it is impossible to bring a revolution to victory. It was under the leadership of our party that the April Revolution was brought to victory.

Babrak Karmal said: We can only accomplish our great revolutionary tasks and fulfill our pledges before the altar of the homeland when we act and struggle under the leadership, instruction, and order of the party.

In the course of a critical assessment, Babrak Karmal once again emphasized the total unity of the party: All members of the party should consider the unity of the party as their honor, wisdom, and conscience and should struggle with all their power and strength in this way.

Karachi: Mujahidin Down Soviet Plane in Balkh

BK040324 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
4 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a Soviet plane with anti-aircraft fire in the Sholgara subdivisional headquarters of Balkh Province. All 17 soldiers aboard the plane were killed. Mujahidin also attacked a military convoy going to Kabul near the provincial headquarters in (Amel-khel) and destroyed four tanks of the Karmal regime. Another report says two more tanks were destroyed in the village (Tappa Sardar) through landmines. The tank crew members were killed.

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Lebanon

As clashes continued across the contact lines in Beirut, President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired another meeting of the Higher Political Security Committee and telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to discuss the security and political situation, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil will dispatch two envoys to Damascus on 5 April to prepare for a summit meeting with Al-Asad aimed at breaking the current deadlock over the disengagement of forces in Beirut and its suburbs, according to "informed sources" cited by the radio.

In the south General Antoine Lahad was sworn in as the new commander of the "army of South Lebanon" and announced his intention to expand the force to 6,000 men, Jerusalem radio reported. Although the radio said that Israel reopened the Lebanese-Israeli border crossing point at Rosh Haniqra, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported that the Israelis continued to cut roads and telephone links to the south from other parts of the country. Meanwhile, Beirut radio announced that Lebanese national resistance forces in southern Lebanon ambushed another IDF vehicle, killing and wounding several Israeli soldiers. The radio also noted that Lebanon has officially asked the United Nations to extend UNIFIL's mandate for a further 6 months.

Israel

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in an interview with Jerusalem radio, welcomed "with joy" Deputy Prime Minister David Levi's decision not to contest the leadership of the Likud list for the forthcoming elections. Levi said in remarks broadcast by the radio that he had made the decision in order to "do everything possible to unite the entire movement" and close ranks. Although both Levi and Shamir urged Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon to reconsider his candidacy, the latter subsequently confirmed his intention to run against Shamir next week, the radio reported.

PLO Affairs

The PFLP and the DFLP have rejected a Fatah working paper aimed at restoring Palestinian unity, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing the DFLP's *AL-HADAF*. The paper termed the draft as "deviationist," accusing Fatah of proposing a "right-wing" course. The 22-point Fatah working paper, which was also described at length by the London paper *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, urged respect for the PNC resolutions, affirmation of the Fes summit resolutions, rejection of the Reagan plan, support for the Palestinian-Jordanian statement, restoration of relations with Syria, consolidation of ties with the Soviet Union, creation of a department charged with undermining Israel politically and socially, and collective leadership in decisionmaking.

Egypt

The Egyptian Armed Forces carried out major maneuvers in the Western desert, MENA reported.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force destroyed bases deep inside Iranian territory during the recent fighting and is capable of striking Tehran and Qom, the Air Force and Air Defense commander claimed, according to INA.

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Soviet Testing of Chemical Weapons Alleged

PM041418 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English
4 Apr 84 p 4

[G.S. Cooper report: "Afghanistan Test Area for Soviet Poison Gas"]

[Text] Persistent, efficient and effective use of chemical weapons by Soviet forces is shown by reports from Afghanistan, according to an article in *JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY*.

The Russians have been using Afghanistan as a testing-ground for previously unknown gases, the article claims.

A soldier of the Soviet Chemical Troops (KHV), captured by the Afghan resistance, Yuriy Povarnitsyn, said his mission was "to examine villages after a chemical attack to determine whether they were safe to enter or required decontamination."

KHV troops had to "visit contaminated areas to collect soil, vegetation and water samples after Soviet attacks." He also examined corpses in contaminated villages.

Details of the kinds of chemicals used have been given to the resistance by a Soviet defector, Mr Anatoliy Zakharov. He said that 57mm rockets filled with one type claimed to be "100 percent lethal" were fired from an Mi-24 Hind helicopter.

The air crew were told to wear gas masks as a precaution. The effect of the gas was said to be devastating, it apparently caused instant death.

Chemical weapons appear to be used whenever it is deemed necessary by the combat commander according to the military situation.

Mujahidin Down Soviet Helicopter Gunship

BK050354 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
5 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports, the mujahidin in the Alishang valley of Afghanistan shot down a Soviet helicopter gunship which was bombarding mujahidin targets.

According to diplomatic sources, the Afghan mujahidin captured 25 Soviet soldiers after attacking the Pashmul post near Kandahar last month. The diplomatic sources say the attack was launched following the Karmal regime's artillery shelling and house-to-house search in some areas of Kandahar. According to another report, in a clash with the Karmal forces at (Abda Khel), Nangarhar Province, the mujahidin destroyed three Soviet tanks with rocket launchers and killed four soldiers of the Karmal regime.

Security Forces Rout 'Counterrevolutionaries'

LD261726 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
26 Mar 84

[Text] As a result of an operation recently by the country's brave security forces in (Char Borj), (Char Kabutar Khan), and Ziarat Joh villages of (Nezam-e Shahid) District and in (Diwancha), (Hawz-e Karbas), (Shal ba Khan), and (Payanaz) villages of Enjil District, Herat Province, a number of armed counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and a number of them were wounded.

Three committees [as heard], eight positions, one mortar, one DshK, and three weapons and equipment caches of the counterrevolutionaries were destroyed.

According to another report, 80 armed men and a number of unarmed men, along with their ringleader by the name of (Sardar) belonging to the Hezb-e Eslami band, in Baghlan Province joined the revolutionary state.

Konduz, Nangarhar Operations

LD281627 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
28 Mar 84

[Text] Quoting a spokesman for the security force in Konduz Province, a BAKHTAR information agency correspondent reports that recently as a result of a successful operation, which was carried out by the vigilant security forces of the country in the villages of that provinces, six counterrevolutionaries, these enemies of the people and revolution, were crushed and a number of assorted weapons and seven antitank and antipersonnel mines were seized from them.

According to another report from Nangarhar Province, as a result of an operation recently by the security forces, 1 DShK; 1 rocket launcher along with 12 pieces of its ammunition; 12 assorted weapons; 50 antitank mines; 3 antitank [as heard]; and more than 400 rounds of assorted ammunition were seized by the security forces.

Arrests in Four Provinces

LD030803 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 2, BAKHTAR — The operations of armed and security forces of the DRA against the counterrevolutionaries are successfully going on in various provinces of the country.

In operations conducted in Herat, Badakhshan, Paktia and Balkh provinces over one hundred counterrevolutionaries were crushed and a large number of them arrested.

A large amount of assorted weapons, including three rocket launchers, recoilless field guns, anti-tank and anti-personnel

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Lebanon

Al-Biqa' Alert — Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' valley along with their Palestinian and Lebanese allies are on maximum alert as a precaution against a possible Israeli attack, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, the Israelis reinforced their positions in the southern Al-Biqa' with tanks and heavy artillery, according to the radio. Damascus radio cited reports of "an unusual situation" in the southern Lebanese border areas and of Israeli military movements toward Lebanon "indicating that Israel is preparing for a swift aggression." The radio also reported warnings by Arab diplomatic sources in London that Israel is preparing to carry out raids against "positions" in several Arab countries, including Syria and the PDRY, in retaliation for the 2 April Jerusalem operation. In Kuwait Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, warned Israel in a KUNA interview that it will pay a high price if it attacks Syria.

Political/Security Situation — Intensive Lebanese-Saudi-Syrian contacts were held in Damascus on 5 April to prepare the agenda for the imminent summit conference between the Lebanese and Syrian presidents, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Two Lebanese presidential envoys met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who later held talks with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, the radio noted. A Syrian presidential spokesman announced that the date of the Syrian-Lebanese summit has not yet been set, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In Beirut a subcommittee of the Higher Political-Security Committee reached agreement on a comprehensive plan for the disengagement of forces on all fronts, although several points remain unresolved, Beirut radio reported. Clashes continued in and around the capital on the night of 5-6 April but died down after a new cease-fire agreement was reached on 6 April, Voice of Lebanon said.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Egyptian preparations to build an infrastructure for an army on the eastern side of the Suez Canal are causing Israel "much concern" because this will allow the Egyptians to deploy much larger forces east of the canal than are permitted in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, Defense Minister Moshe Arens declared in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Although the treaty does not define the size of the infrastructure that can be built on the eastern side, it clearly stipulates that the Egyptians should not deploy more than one division there, he pointed out. Israel did not concede the entire Sinai just so that an Egyptian ambassador could be sent to Tel Aviv for 3 years, Arens asserted, and it expected to be compensated for its concessions with "full normalization or completely normal relations."

Meanwhile, after meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said in an IDF Radio interview that he has "no doubt" of Mubarak's "genuine

adherence" to the peace treaty, though he admitted that beyond this "there is far more dispute than there is accord" between Egypt and Israel.

Egyptian-Arab Relations

Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz, in an interview reported by MENA, said there is "harmony and agreement" in interests among all the Arab states and an "improvement" in Egyptian-Syrian relations. Stressing that Syria has a "legitimate cause" in its commitment to the Palestinian question and its right to liberate occupied Syrian territory, Al-Baz predicted that the day will come when Egypt's relations with Syria will be restored to the position that "every Arab" desires.

As for Egypt's return to the ICO, an Egyptian official announced that Egypt has agreed to attend the emergency conference of Islamic foreign ministers requested by the PLO to discuss the possible relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, Cairo radio reported.

Hijacking of Saudi Airliner

A Saudi airliner en route from Jidda to Damascus was hijacked to Istanbul airport where the pilots managed to bring the situation under control and handed the hijacker over to the Turkish authorities, the Saudi Civil Aviation Directorate announced in a statement broadcast by Riyadh television. Sources cited by AFP said Turkish security forces stormed the plane and captured two hijackers believed to be Syrians.

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio claimed that Iranian artillery fire recently destroyed an Iraqi post 23 km inside Iraqi territory, killing more than 300 enemy troops. The radio also cited a *LE MONDE* report that 2,000 Soviet military experts are in Iraq advising forces there.

Iran

Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in remarks to shari'a judges and Evin Prison prosecutors reported by Tehran radio, recommended that supporters of opposition "minigroups" who have been jailed for their statements or publications be released if they guarantee not to plot against the Islamic Republic. Jailing such people is counterproductive because it encourages the "minigroups" to use the large number of prisoners in Iran for propaganda purposes and leads to "further deviation" as inmates receive "ideological indoctrination" against the authorities from imprisoned opposition leaders, Montazeri argued.

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Dost Receives UN Representative Cordovez*LD061013 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 6 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, April 5, BAKHTAR — Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the DRA, met in his office today with Diego Cordovez, special representative of UN secretary general.

Diego Cordovez exchanged views with the Afghan foreign minister about the issues relating to the continuation of his mission in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

Special representative of the UN secretary general heading a delegation arrived in Kabul today in a follow-up of his previous visits to the region for finding a political solution for the situation around Afghanistan.

Sarwar Yurish and Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy foreign ministers of the DRA, and the members of the delegation headed by Diego Cordovez were also present at the meeting.

Karmal Expresses 'Readiness To Come to Negotiations'*LD060556 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 6 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, April 5, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, announced today that tremendous steps have been taken towards the economic growth, and the development of productive forces of the country.

Speaking in an august meeting held for bidding farewell to the outgoing cadets of the military academy, he announced that considerable and massive changes have taken place towards the development in the fields of industry, energy, commerce, communication and transportation.

Before distributing diplomas and medals to the outstanding graduates of the military academy, the air force academy and other educational institutes of the armed forces, he delivered a contentful speech about the heavy duties and burdens of safeguarding the achievements of the revolution and the country in the present circumstances.

"The convocation of the 13th plenary session of the PDPA CC, he added, [quotation marks as received] in the intensification of struggle against the counter-revolution and the consolidation of the state sovereignty was another event that put the imperative duty of practically and resolutely solving the main problems of the revolution with present-day circumstances on the order of the day."

Concerning the foreign policy of the DRA he categorically declared that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan holds a peaceful stand and wants peace and security to prevail in the region.

Babrak Karmal noted that "we want our relations with Pakistan and Iran to be based on good neighbourliness and any differences, if it may exist, be settled through direct political negotiations."

"The principled and peaceful policy of the DRA never permits any interference in our internal affairs by other countries," he said.

The speaker once again repeated that the doors of the homeland are flung wide open to all compatriots residing abroad with a sense of fraternity and peace.

Babrak Karmal said that our principled, logical and peaceful policy of the DRA is at the same time flexible when it is necessary, and it is completely upon the Iranian and Pakistani side, particularly the latter, to show readiness for direct negotiations with Afghanistan as dictated by the common sense and for ensuring and consolidating peace and security in the region.

He said that in accordance with international norms and international law "we express our readiness to come to negotiations and to tackle political problems."

Babrak Karmal stressed the need for international guarantees. He said that if these guarantees are completely ensured, and "we become convinced that no aggression and interference will occur again from the Iranian and Pakistani territories against the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of our country, then it will be solely a matter between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union to decide on the return of the limited contingents of the Soviet troops from the DRA."

'Counterrevolutionaries' Routed, Weapons Seized*LD052101 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84*

[Excerpts] As a result of the heroic operations of officers and men of the 20th Division, Badakhshan Province, with the participation of the officers and men of the 24th Sarandoy Regiment of the Operational Battalion and revolution defense groups, 100 servants of reaction and imperialism who had been disrupting the peaceful life of the local people were killed recently in (Shana), (Karkand), (Goldara), (Lalabad), and (Samandara) villages of this province. A large amount of weapons and ammunition were seized from them.

A security source for this province said that as a result of this heroic operation, 1 antiaircraft gun, 41 antitank mines, 157 antipersonnel mines, 1 DShK, 64,000 rounds of assorted ammunition, a communication station, 6 binoculars, 4 heavy machine guns, and more than 1,350 DShK shells with a number of [words indistinct] were seized; 11 depots and 47 enemy positions were destroyed.

A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a spokesman of the security forces, reports from Kandahar Province that recently a successful operation was launched in this province by the courageous security forces. As a result, a number of criminal rebels were killed; two were arrested; and various weapons, one motor

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Lebanon

The Higher Political Security Committee has approved its subcommittee's plan for the disengagement of forces in and around Beirut and views this as a first step toward ending the fighting, a committee spokesman declared in a statement reported by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The announcement followed a meeting of the committee chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, the contact lines in Beirut were relatively calm after another day of "tension," the radio said.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam confirmed in a press interview reported by Damascus radio that President Hafiz al-Asad will meet with President al-Jumayyil "shortly."

Israel

Reservist Call-up Exercise — The IDF General Staff announced the start of a public call-up exercise involving the mobilization of four reserve units in an order broadcast by Jerusalem radio.

Suspected Terrorists — Police arrested 4 Jewish men in connection with 14 terrorist attacks on Muslim and Christian holy places over the past 7 months, Jerusalem radio reported.

Syria

Damascus radio, citing "threats" uttered by Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, charged U.S. instigation of Israel following the U.S. "defeat" in Lebanon and its effort "to cover Syria's great victory with clouds of smoke and threats." Noting that such statements must be taken seriously, the radio added that "we do not rule out the possibility that the U.S. Administration will incite Israel to carry out a military adventure in the region." The United States will be held responsible for any military action undertaken by Israel, which "will certainly not be the side to determine the date the dispute ends."

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received an "important" written message from Soviet leaders on recent developments in the Middle East during a 2-hour meeting with the Soviet ambassador in Tunis, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio reported citing Wafa. The radio provided no details of the contents of the message. 'Arafat also met with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in Tunis and discussed the Palestinian cause and recent area developments, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio revealed. Gandhi briefed 'Arafat on steps she has taken as head of the eight-member nonaligned committee to resolve the Palestinian problem and on her recent talks with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi on the Palestinian issue, Delhi radio reported.

Saudi Arabia

A spokesman for the Saudi Embassy in Washington described as "incorrect" a State Department report that Saudi Arabia is to lease Stinger missiles from the United States to protect the royal yacht, according to SPA.

Iran

Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Japan on 10 April and held talks with his Japanese counterpart, Shintaro Abe, IRNA reported. Earlier, Velayati held talks with PRC Foreign Ministry officials during a brief stopover in Beijing, IRNA noted.

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Mujahidin Activities, Recent Fighting Reported**Chesht-e Sharif Seized***LD061123 Riyadh SPA in English 1919 GMT 5 Apr 84*

[Text] Islamabad, April 5, SPA — Afghan mujahideen have succeeded in liberating the historic town of Chesht-e Sharif in Afghanistan's north-western Herat Province after fierce battles with Soviet-Afghan forces late last month, the state-run Pakistan television reported here tonight.

Nearly 200 Soviet-Afghan troops were killed and two tanks destroyed during battles at Chesht-e Sharif, the television report said. The television did not give any details about the mujahideen casualties.

Military Post Destroyed*BK061551 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Apr 84*

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have killed 19 Soviet-Karmal soldiers in an attack in Balkh Province. In retaliation, the Soviet-Karmal forces bombarded the civilian population in the area. The mujahidin reportedly shot down a Soviet MIG aircraft while it was carrying out bombing operations.

According to another report, the Afghan mujahidin have completely destroyed a military post of the Karmal administration and captured a large quantity of arms and other equipment in Badghis Province.

Chemical Warfare Alleged*BK080439 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Apr 84*

[Text] Reports have again come in on the use of chemical weapons by Soviet-Karmal troops against mujahidin in Afghanistan. A news agency, quoting mujahidin in Kandahar, says that during clashes between Soviet-Karmal troops and mujahidin, which have been going on for the last 3 weeks in (Panjgui) Subdivision, chemical gas was used. Another report says hundreds of people have been affected by chemical gas and have become victims of skin and nerve ailments. It is reported that Soviet experts and units trained in the use of chemical weapons were sent to Afghanistan from the Soviet Union last month with new detachments and stationed at important military bases in (Gilgeam), (Shindan), and Qundus.

Soviet Helicopter Downed*BK090638 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 9 Apr 84*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin shot down a Soviet military helicopter and damaged a number of tanks in their attack in the mineral-rich border province of Jowzjan. Over 40 Soviet-Karmal soldiers were killed and 11 mujahidin were martyred in this attack.

Subdivision Headquarters Hit*BK091202 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Apr 84*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that 25 Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and a number of tanks and military vehicles damaged in an operation by the Afghan mujahidin at the subdivision headquarters of Spin Buldak last week.

Vardak Mujahidin Commander Explains Operations*LD091722 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 9 Apr 84*

[Text] Since 1979, 100,000 Soviet soldiers have been stationed in Afghanistan. Since the Kabul coup, the Russians have been trying to bring Afghanistan to heel. However, the resistance is organized. Its weapons are not up to the same standard as that of the Red Army, but it untiringly organizes commando operations against the Russian occupier. One of the Afghan resistance leaders is currently in Paris. He is Amin Wardak. How is the resistance organized? What are its hopes for the next few months? Listen to Amin Wardak in his interview with Ulysse Gosset:

[Begin recording] I am Amin Wardak, military commander of the Vardak Province, southwest of Kabul. Within our tribe, called the [word indistinct], there are 80,000 inhabitants. So far, our province has remained free. We, the mujahidin, attack the town of Ghazni and lead actions against the Kabul-Kandahar highway.

[Gosset] Is your main activity attacks against Soviet trucks which carry supplies and against the armored cars which go into the different provinces of Afghanistan?

[Wardak] Yes.

[Gosset] How is this done?

[Wardak] In military terms, we have three different groups of mujahidin. The first group is made up of young commandos between the ages of 18 and 22. We have trained these men very well. In small teams, they attack the convoys and the town. The second group is made up of mujahidin who are there to defend civilians in the village. The third group is made up of mujahidin who guard the mujahidin centers and do the logistics work.

[Gosset] How many men is this in total?

[Wardak] Normally, there is a permanent body of 3,000 mujahidin members who work all the time.

[Gosset] Three thousand people. This is for the military organization. Is there organization at the civilian level?

[Wardak] Yes, of course, the civilian area is the most important. It is a popular ideal and we have to keep our people with us. This is why we have to rebuild schools, hospitals, [word indistinct]

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Lebanon

A new cease-fire agreement scheduled to take effect 10 April was not honored, and areas in West Beirut came under concentrated artillery fire from the eastern sector, wounding a large number of civilians and causing fires in several places, Beirut radio reported. Tension on the contact lines subsequently eased as the fighting died out, the radio noted. Beirut radio said the Lebanese-Syrian summit is expected this week although no official date has been set. Meanwhile, President Amin al-Jumayyil met with former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt, colleagues of Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, to discuss "pressing national affairs," including efforts to implement decisions of the Lausanne conference, according to the radio.

Commenting on the disengagement agreement approved by the Higher Political Security Committee, a "nationalist source" cited by the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio dismissed the plan as a "small card" which President al-Jumayyil will attempt to portray as a "huge achievement" in his talks with the Syrians. The source said the disengagement plan is so general as to encourage "further maneuvers" by the government group, which is still playing for time in the hope of receiving external assistance. Syria's *TISHRIN*, in an editorial reviewed by Damascus radio, stressed that the disengagement plan is designed to achieve a cease-fire and preserve Lebanon's unity. The disengagement lines must separate the fighters but not the citizens, the paper asserted, and Syria will not allow "partitionist forces" to undermine Lebanon's unity by transforming the disengagement lines into a "fait accompli."

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will meet with DFLP and PFLP leaders Nayif Hawatimah and George Habash in Algiers on 20 April, Radio Monte Carlo reported, citing Palestinian sources.

Iraq-Israel

The Iraqi newspapers *ATH-THAWRAH* and *AL-JUMHURIYAH* warned that Israel is preparing new "aggression" against Iraq, and the Iraqi foreign minister sent a message to the UN secretary general concerning Israel's "aggressive intentions" against Iraq's scientific and industrial installations, INA reported. A senior Israeli official cited by Jerusalem radio dismissed as "absurd" the charge that Israel is planning to attack Iraq's "chemical" plant.

Iran-Iraq War

Delegation in Tokyo — Iran has no intention of escalating the war with Iraq, but foresees no immediate end to it, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said in a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, KYODO reported. In another report, following an earlier meeting with Velayati and other Iranian officials, Japanese officials disclosed that Iran had warned of Soviet efforts to increase its influence in the Middle East and criticized the USSR for helping Iraq wage chemical warfare, according to KYODO.

Egyptian Initiative — An Egyptian initiative to end the Gulf war is being "studied" before being sent to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the current head of the Nonaligned Movement, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said in an interview reported by MENA. Asked whether he was suggesting that peacekeeping forces be sent to Iran and Iraq, Mubarak answered: "Why not?" A commentary broadcast by Tehran radio's Arabic service asserted that Mubarak's diplomatic initiative is designed to extricate Egypt from its political isolation and concluded that it "will not change the course of the war."

Iranian Reinforcements — More than 4,000 revolution guards left for the battle fronts on 9 and 10 April, Tehran radio reported.

Iranian Atom Bomb — Iran is constructing an atomic bomb in Bushehr which is likely to be ready in 2 years, the Italian weekly *PANORAMA* alleged according to KUNA.

Clergyman Defects — Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Tehrani, a former assistant to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and brother-in-law of President Ali Khamene'i, recently defected to Iraq and attacked Khomeyni's "inhuman practices" against the Iranian people and his departure from Islamic teachings in a series of addresses broadcast in Iraqi radio and television Persian language programs.

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Foreign Minister Meets With UN's Cordovez

LD101647 *Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Apr 84*

[Text] Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost met this afternoon at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary general. At this meeting, which took place in the presence of Deputy Foreign Ministers Sarwar Yurish and Sakhi Daneshjo and members of the delegation of the representative of the UN secretary general, there was a discussion in a friendly atmosphere about his mission to find a solution for the events surrounding Afghanistan.

KABUL NEW TIMES Cited on CIA 'Interference'

LD080726 *Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 8 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, April 7, BAKHTAR — The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the USA and White House strive to hamper with all possible means the stabilization of the situation and development of revolutionary process in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, writes *KABUL NEW TIMES*. This is reflected in the U.S. preparation for increasing the assistance to the Afghan counter-revolution, delivery of modern arms including surface-to-air and anti-tank weapons, the change in the combat methods of the counterrevolutionary bandits by the American trainers, etc.

Recently, the newspaper goes on, two other revealing documents were seized from the counterrevolutionary groups during mopping up operations by the armed forces of the country. This document which is published in the press bears witness to the "open hand" of the American advisors in continuation and expansion of the undeclared war against the DRA and is indicative of the fact that Washington has full control over the activities of Afghan counterrevolution. Some time ago William Casey the president of the CIA [as received] in an interview with the *DAILY TELEGRAPH* gave himself the right to talk about the supervision of the CIA over the countries whose situation has become complicated.

But the CIA has taken a further step forward about our country: "Intervention after intervention and expansion of the scale of aggression against the people."

Sleg Harrison, the famous American figure in international relations, connected with D. Carnegie Foundation, has recently explained as follows: "The Reagan administration is against the peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and continues the long undeclared war against Afghanistan."

Washington's plans for preventing a peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan is not hidden from the eyes of the people at large. Thus, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA some time ago (on March 11, 1984) revealed that representatives of the U.S. administration are not only not interested in political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan but endeavour to hamper any possible way of reaching such settlement by intensifying the undeclared war. This fact was stressed by George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, in the National Security Committee. Likewise, Shaffer, the

deputy state secretary, in a press conference clearly confessed that the United States of America helps the Afghan counter-revolution.

The statement of a high ranking official of the CIA published in daily *WASHINGTON POST* in late December 1983 fully clarifies this point. He said: "It is clear that the United States of America cannot accept any settlement which is now negotiated in the United Nations Organisation even if it results in the withdrawal of the military forces of the Soviet Union because this would mean the recognition of the Kabul regime, the ally of the Soviet Union, by Pakistan."

This allegation indicates that the CIA is not willing to give up the continuation of interference in Afghanistan. Simultaneously the CIA intends to give the war against revolutionary Afghanistan greater dimensions.

BAKHTAR Praises Chernenko Statement

LD061049 *Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 6 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, April 5, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BIA writes: One of the major characteristics of the foreign policy of imperialist countries, especially the USA, is that their words and deeds never match because their policy is based on lie and deceit.

On the contrary, the principled and humanitarian policies of the socialist countries are frank and realistic.

The recent reply of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Chernenko, to the appeal from the leading figures of the Socialist International as to the dangers of a nuclear confrontation is a clear testimony to this fact.

The scientific, valuable and concrete reply sent by Konstantin Chernenko to the appeal of the leaders of the Socialist International, comprising the socialist, social-democratic and labour parties, has made the world to realise, despite the imperialist propagandist smokescreen, where actually the danger of a nuclear disaster emanates from.

Stressing that the danger cannot be concealed by demagogic pronouncements, Konstantin Chernenko has said that although lately the United States has been professing its desire for a dialogue with the USSR, it is not backing it up with anything specific.

Moreover, these professions are belied by practical actions towards the opposite direction. From this it follows that what matters is not the statements issued but rather the readiness to clear the obstacles which were created in the way of the talks on nuclear arms limitations and reduction.

The whole set of proposals put forward by the Soviet Union is aimed at achieving this. To freeze forthwith all the nuclear arsenals, to limit and substantially reduce the strategic arms, to radically curb the possibilities of nuclear confrontation in Europe, to prevent militarisation of space, to prohibit and destroy

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Lebanon

Tension prevails along the confrontation lines in the Al-Biqā' valley following clashes between Israeli and Syrian forces and the arrival of Israeli reinforcements, Beirut radio reported on 12 April. Earlier, a Libyan People's Foreign Liaison Bureau statement carried by Tripoli radio warned of "large Zionist forces" mobilizing to attack Syria and stressed that Libya considers any aggression against Syria as aggression against itself. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a visiting U.S. official that Israel has no intention of attacking the Syrians, who therefore have no reason to fear Israel's intentions, Jerusalem radio reported.

Meanwhile, clashes continued across the contact lines in Beirut, and the western area came under renewed artillery fire from the eastern sector, according to Beirut radio. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon accused Progressive Socialist Party and Amal Movement gunmen of aggravating the security situation. Nevertheless, representatives of the opposing sides reached "agreement in principle" on a timetable for separating the forces in and around Beirut during a meeting of the Security Arrangements Committee, Beirut radio reported.

Beirut radio reported that President Amin al-Jumayyil has instructed the Lebanese mission to the United Nations to raise the question of southern Lebanon and protest the cutting of roads to the south by the Israelis. Al-Jumayyil also stipulated that his government does not recognize military organizations that are not "officially and legitimately established or appointed" and will henceforth have no dealings with them.

Iran-Iraq War

Velayati Talks in Japan — Iran cannot end the war without recovering its "lost rights," Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said in a news conference in Tokyo, Tehran radio reported. Explaining the absence of direct talks, Velayati said Iraq does not respect international law and agreements and therefore Iran cannot rely on or consider valid any agreements concluded by the Iraqi Government. According to KYODO, Velayati informed Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe that Iran would not blockade the Strait of Hormuz unless its crude exports were completely blocked. Velayati also conveyed assurances regarding the safety of Japanese personnel involved in the construction of the Bandar-e Khomeyni petrochemical complex and told Abe that Iran would work for the earliest possible Majlis ratification of the 1983 accord on the project, KYODO revealed.

Iraqi-Jordanian Talks — Jordanian King Husayn held talks in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who reviewed developments in the war with Iran and stressed Iraq's ability to stand firm against Iranian "aggression," Amman radio reported.

Iran

Majlis candidates are engaged in "healthy and extensive" competition resulting in very few offenses, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi remarked in a report broadcast by Tehran radio. However, a statement issued by the head of the Council of Guardians Election Supervision Committee accused the newspapers *ETTELA'AT* and *KEYHAN* of a "clear violation" of the law when "a number" of ministers endorsed candidates, the radio reported. The statement added that legal action will be taken. Meanwhile, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in a message broadcast by Tehran radio, called for the "serious participation of all classes" as a "duty to religion." At the same time, he warned that if the people base their choice of representatives solely on "religious aspects," the Majlis may become "too weak" to overcome the country's problems.

Egypt

Military Maneuvers — The Armed Forces carried out maneuvers in the Suez area in which troops armed with U.S. weapons waged a "frontal battle" against units armed with Soviet-made weapons, MENA reported.

Mubarak's Brother — Sami Mubarak, brother of the president, is a candidate for the opposition New Wafd Party in the 27 May parliamentary elections, the London daily *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* disclosed.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba is "well" after his eye operation in a French clinic, AFP reported citing a Tunisian spokesman.

Afghanistan

The DRA has ordered the expulsion of the third secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Richard S. Vandiver, for activity contrary to accepted international and diplomatic norms, Kabul radio announced. The radio said the U.S. official was engaged in spying and collecting information hostile to the DRA.

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U.S. Embassy Third Secretary Expelled for Spying

*LD111635 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
11 Apr 84*

[Text] Richard S. Vandiver, third secretary at the U.S. Embassy, has been ordered to leave Afghanistan.

In accordance with information, documents, and substantial evidence, the third secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul was engaged in spying and collecting hostile information and activities against the DRA. His activity was contrary to accepted international norms and was in contravention of his diplomatic duty. Therefore, the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers him persona non grata. An official note, which was handed to the U.S. charge in Kabul this afternoon by the deputy director of protocol of the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs, objected to such activities and demanded his expulsion from the DRA within 48 hours.

SPA Reports on Fighting, Defections

LD111337 Riyadh SPA in English 1214 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Text] Islamabad, April 11, SPA — A Soviet helicopter was shot down in scenic Paghman City, 15 kms north-west of Kabul, on April 4, Western diplomatic sources reported here last night.

The Soviet troops launched a big ground operation on Kariz-e town in north of Paghman in Shomali region while nearly 20 Soviet MIGs heavily bombed the town, the sources said.

Four mujahideen and 30 civilians died as a result of the bombardment by the MIGs, they added.

The sources said four Soviet and three Afghan officers defected to mujahideen Commander Ahmad Shah Masud in Panjshir Valley, 90 kms north-east of Kabul, on April 5.

On the other hand, defections have been continuing ever since a military service decree of March 8 which forced conscripts to service for four years instead of three.

Nearly 118 Afghan soldiers have defected from the 8th Division headquarters near Qargha Lake on outskirts of Kabul.

Meanwhile, Afghan mujahideen have blown up a strategic bridge over Kabul River on highway linking Afghan capital with the Pakistan border.

On March 18, they killed four Afghan soldiers and destroyed an armoured personnel carrier (APC) by planting mines on the road between Jalalabad and the Pakistani border.

On the other hand, mujahideen destroyed nine Soviet APCs, one Afghan armoured vehicle and inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet-Afghan Government troops in a fierce engagement in Ghazni.

Eight mujahideen were killed and four wounded during the battle, the sources said.

Karachi: Mujahidin Attack Brigade in Herat

*BK120327 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
12 Apr 84*

[Text] According to reports, the Afghan mujahidin attacked a brigade of the Karmal forces in Herat Province of Afghanistan and killed more than 47 Soviet-Karmal soldiers.

Security Forces Rout 'Counterrevolutionaries'

*LD112052 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
11 Apr 84*

[Text] Quoting a spokesman for the security force of Kabul Province, a BAKHTAR information agency correspondent reports that recently as a result of a successful operation by the vigilant security forces of the country in the (Chinzai) and (Naseri) villages, Bagram District, Parvan Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements, belonging to the Jami'at band were crushed and a number of these murderers were captured.

The report adds that 1 DShK, 2 mortars, 1 [word indistinct], 1 rocket launcher, 14 assorted weapons, antitank mines, 30 hand grenades, 1 pair of binoculars, 1 Japanese loudspeaker, 586 rounds of ammunition for mortars, DShK's, and rocket launchers, 6,500 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 4 gas masks were seized by the security forces.

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Lebanon

Military/Security Situation — Israeli armored columns have deployed in several areas in the Al-Biqa' valley, and the Israelis have told local inhabitants not to approach the cease-fire line, warning that they will fire at anyone disregarding this order, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, an IDF soldier was injured by a hand grenade attack on an Israeli patrol in An-Nabatiyah, according to Jerusalem radio. The situation in Beirut remained relatively calm, but several people were killed or injured in clashes between the Islamic Unification Movement and the pro-Syrian "Red Knights" in the northern city of Tripoli, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Political Developments — The Security Arrangements Committee approved the "final plan" for the deployment of observers and the Higher Political Security Committee is expected to meet shortly to put the finishing touches on it, Beirut radio announced. In Damascus recent talks between Lebanese opposition leaders and Syrian officials achieved "noticeable progress" and could pave the way for the postponed Syrian-Lebanese summit, according to a Lebanese nationalist source cited by Radio Monte Carlo. The Lebanese Forces Command Council, in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio, viewed favorably recent statements by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. The statement considered Junblatt's declaration that priority should be given to stopping the fighting as a positive move and described Birri's recent call for dialogue as sincere and a contribution to creating an atmosphere appropriate for dialogue, which must start with a cease-fire and not be linked to preconditions.

PLO Affairs

The leaders of the PFLP, the DFLP, the Palestinian Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party will not attend the meeting of Palestinian revolution factions in Algiers on 18 April, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf disclosed in a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AR-RAY AL-'AMM*. For the present, Khalaf observed, it is enough for representatives of the political bureaus of the four factions to attend. The Fatah official also remarked that the Algiers meeting has a better chance of succeeding than other meetings because it has Syria's blessing.

Soviet Diplomacy

Polyakov in Egypt — Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Department, held talks in Cairo with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, MENA reported. They discussed Middle East and Lebanese developments and also examined ways to improve bilateral relations "in view of the mutual desire for such an improvement," MENA added.

Brutents in Syria — Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department, discussed Soviet-Syrian cooperation during a meeting with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus, SANA reported. Earlier, Brutents briefed Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' on his recent tour of several Arab countries, according to Damascus radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Any Egyptian plan to end the Iran-Iraq war is "not even mentionable," IRNA asserted, adding that Egypt, "Iraq's principal accomplice," is not qualified to present a peace plan. The agency's commentary charged that the "joint initiative by Washington and Cairo" had been sent to the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement in a U.S. effort to discredit the movement. It expressed hope that the latter would disregard the plan and thus avoid becoming a "tool" in the hands of the United States. Iran has not been informed of the details of the plan, IRNA noted.

Iran

Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri issued a statement thanking the Iranian people for their "orderly and all-round presence" in the Majlis elections, which once again proved their political and ideological maturity, Tehran radio reported. He called the people's attention to "rumors and lies" spread by "counterrevolutionary agents" and added that the security forces are "dutybound" to prosecute persons committing illegal acts on the pretext of supporting or opposing candidates.

Meanwhile, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio reported a "very low turnout" in the elections despite the extension of voting hours. The radio also spoke of "unrest" in Zahedan and Zabol, where people demonstrated against the regime and the elections.

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Abdol Qader Chairs Armed Forces Leadership Meeting
LD170849 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
 17 Apr 84

[Text] A meeting of the Armed Forces leadership under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General Abdol Qader, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of national defense, was held today in the conference hall of the Ministry of Defense.

A Ministry of Defense source told a BAKHTAR correspondent that a report on combat training and education, combat readiness, and combat capability of the units and companies of the Army was read by Brigadier General Mohammad Nabi 'Azimi, first deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense, and light was shed on its positive and negative aspects. Also the attention of the commanders and political workers was drawn to the defects which existed in training during the winter season and instructions were issued for its improvement in accordance with the new phase of performing work.

Brigadier General Nazar Mohammad, chief of the General Staff, then spoke on the leadership, administration, and further equipping of the Army; he reported on raising the level of education, training, and vigilance of the Army toward the elimination of rebels.

The spokesman said that in this meeting Brigadier General Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of DRA Army political affairs, also spoke in detail about the political training of the Army staff and raising its political vigilance and revolutionary consciousness and about its firm belief in the goals and aims of the party and revolution.

The commanders and heads of political organs spoke about Army staff victories in crushing the counterrevolution and maintaining security and a peaceful life for the toilers of the country.

In conclusion, the minister of national defense positively assessed the result of combat training and political education of the army units and companies and issued necessary instructions in the light of the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee 13th Plenum.

Keshmand Congratulates Tikhonov on Reappointment
LD132207 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
 13 Apr 84

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, has sent the following message to Moscow on the occasion of the reappointment of Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, as chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Dear Nikolay Aleksandrovich,

Please accept my most sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of your appointment in the high position as chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The people of the DRA are very well aware of the great and continuous attention of the Soviet Government, under your leadership, to the task of development and consolidation of all-round and fraternal cooperation between our countries.

The disinterested internationalist assistance of the Soviet Government to the people of Democratic Afghanistan for improving the national economy, construction of the new society, and the defense of the sovereignty and national independence of our country are the outstanding manifestation of fraternal relations and revolutionary solidarity between our people.

Cooperation with the USSR in the sphere of industry, transportation, energy, agriculture, irrigation, and training of national cadres are very important and valuable for Afghanistan. Taking this opportunity, I express my profound thanks and gratitude for this assistance and all-round support.

I wish you good health and new and formidable victories, dear Nikolay Aleksandrovich, in the very important and responsible position as head of the Soviet Government, for progress of the Soviet people in the interest of Afghan-Soviet friendship and securing general peace in the world.

Cultural Agreement Signed With USSR
LD151728 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
 15 Apr 84

[Text] A protocol on a cultural plan agreement between the DRA and the Soviet Union for training national and educational cadres for the DRA was signed this afternoon at the State Planning Committee.

The protocol was signed by Borhanuddin Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education, and F.A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador to Kabul. Documents were exchanged. Present at the signing ceremony was Sarwar Mangal, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee.

Under the protocol, which is valid from 1984 to 1988, 1,500 Afghan students will be trained in various scientific, technical, and cultural branches in the Soviet Union every year.

Security Forces Rout 'Counterrevolutionaries'

Kandahar Province
LD131828 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
 13 Apr 84

[Text] As a result of an operation recently carried out in Daman District, Kandahar Province, by the country's security forces, a number of the counterrevolutionary elements were killed and 12 were arrested.

A security source of this province said that 4 Chinese Kalashnikovs with 9 magazines, a number of hand grenades, a quantity of various ammunition, and 3 sacks of propaganda leaflets —

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Libya

Tripoli radio viewed the events at the Libyan People's Bureau in London as a "horrible terrorist action" by the British Government, claiming that British police "stormed" the Bureau and opened fire on its members, thereby forcing those inside to "defend themselves." A Foreign Liaison Bureau statement carried by JANA blamed British authorities for permitting "hostile elements" to demonstrate outside the Bureau, accused them of provocations and hostile actions against Libyans in the People's Bureau and elsewhere in Britain, and warned that British police are preparing to capture the Bureau, an act which will "not pass without reply" from the Libyan people. In a related commentary, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio denied that Libya was responsible for the "explosions which shook London" and said the "attack" on the People's Bureau was an "extremely bitter insult" which the Libyan people will avenge by exerting pressure on the "open wounds in the sick British body."

Lebanon

Lebanese-Syrian Summit — President Amin al-Jumayyil has accepted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's invitation to visit Damascus for a summit meeting on 19 April, Beirut radio announced. Al-Asad's invitation came after Syrian officials reached agreement with Lebanese opposition representatives over the issues to be discussed, the radio noted. Earlier, in a cable to Al-Asad on the occasion of Syria's national day, Al-Jumayyil stressed the importance of continuing to strengthen bilateral relations, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

In other political developments, Radio Monte Carlo cited reports that Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt's recent talks in Damascus with Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud failed to reconcile the PSP leader and Libyan-backed Al-Murabitun leader Ibrahim Qulaylat. Meanwhile, the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio alleged that Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche visited East Beirut last week for talks with Phalangist political and military officials.

Military/Security Situation — Both Voice of the Mountain and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported intermittent clashes on the contact lines in and around Beirut on 17 April. Meanwhile, French and Lebanese observers replaced gunmen in vantage points on the Al-Murr and Rizq Tower buildings in Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Damascus radio reported that Israeli forces are making military preparations in the Al-Biqa' valley which "observers" view as a prelude to an attack on the Syrians.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Navy and Navy air units destroyed two large "naval targets" between Bushehr and Khark Island early on 18 April, a military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio.

PLO Affairs

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir arrived in Algiers to head the Fatah delegation in talks with PFLP and DFLP representatives, Algiers radio reported. In Rabat Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas said Fatah is ready to discuss the "forthcoming formula" for the PLO Executive Committee with "all" except PFLP-General Command leader Ahmad Jibril and the Fatah dissidents, according to KUNA. The quadripartite alliance of the PFLP, DFLP, Palestinian Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party has submitted a "national salvation program" to Fatah calling for a broad front within the PLO aimed at maintaining the organization's unity and confronting "capitulatory" methods, the *JORDAN TIMES* revealed. PFLP spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif told the newspaper that the program is intended to prevent the PLO from endorsing schemes that contradict its nationalist goals. He also indicated that the PFLP and DFLP intend to strengthen their political position by escalating military operations against Israel.

Saudi Arabia

An official source, in a statement reported by SPA, accused the Western press of distorting the truth regarding the Saudi ambassador to Washington's recent banquet which was attended by the Soviet ambassador. There was "no directing or planning in the matter as imagined by some writers," the official stressed, and the Soviet ambassador has attended receptions given by the Saudi Embassy on previous occasions.

Afghanistan

Protest to Pakistan — The DRA Government, in a Foreign Ministry note to Pakistan reported by BAKHTAR, condemned Pakistan's alleged detention of 37 Afghan officials seized in an attack on a DRA customs post last December by "bandits and foreign mercenaries supported by Pakistani border units."

Panjshir Valley — Resistance leader Ahmad Shah Masud has captured about 50 secret police spies who had infiltrated his forces, AFP reported citing Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad.

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Pakistani Charge Summoned, Handed Protest Note*LD171721 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1245 GMT 17 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, 17 Apr (BAKHTAR) — The Pakistan Embassy's charge d'affaires in Kabul was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1500 today. The following protest note concerning the arrest and imprisonment of 37 employees of DRA civil organizations in the incident which occurred in the Towr Kham area on 18 December 1983 was handed over to him by an official of the political department:

As a result of an attack by the bandits and foreign mercenaries supported by Pakistani border units and cover of light and heavy weapons fire on DRA civil installations in Towr Kham, they set fire to the customs house building, and after plundering public property and causing great loss to human life and property, they took with them some 37 personnel of the civil installations and transported them by force to the other side of the border. They were then arrested there by Pakistani authorities.

In accordance with letters which arrived from the above prisoners to the DRA authorities, the Pakistan militia, after taking the prisoners to the other side of the border and keeping them temporarily under custody at the Pakistani border post, then took them by special motor vehicle — carrying only prisoners — to Landi Kotal. There, Pakistani authorities tried, by using means of intimidation and temptation, to make them accept asylum in Pakistan. However, the prisoners resisted and said that Pakistan is always talking about noninterference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and now they want us by force to remain in Pakistan. "We wish only to return to our beloved homeland," they said.

The Pakistani authorities — having failed in their efforts — transferred the prisoners to the central prison in Peshawar. There, the prisoners were subjected to inhuman actions; they experienced severe physical and psychological torture. By brainwashing, they again tried to keep them in Pakistan and to prevent them from returning to their homeland and families.

The relevant Afghan authorities have many times summoned the charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul and have asked for the immediate release of the prisoners. But the Pakistani authorities have made no decision on this subject. So far, they have provided no necessary facilities for the Afghan Consulate in Peshawar to see the prisoners and find out about their condition and sufferings.

The patriotic Afghan prisoners so far have bravely tolerated various means of suppression and hard labor from the Pakistani authorities with earnest faith. The prisoners have not been influenced by their intimidation and false propaganda and plan to resist to the end. They have warned that if the situation continues, they will start a hunger strike.

The DRA Government vigorously condemns these actions by the Pakistan Government, which are contrary to international norms and principles and against the spirit of humanism and makes a serious protest to Pakistani authorities in this regard, once again asking the Pakistani authorities to immediately release the prisoners and safely return them to the DRA.

Afghan-Soviet Friendship Days Inaugurated*LD180914 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0459 GMT 18 Apr 84*

[Text] Kabul, April 17, BAKHTAR — A gala function to mark the beginning of the days of Afghan-Soviet friendship devoted to 6th anniversary of April Revolution was held in Kabul today in the house of science and culture of the Soviet Union. The function was preceded by the inauguration of a two-week exhibition depicting the technical economic progress of Socialist Republic of Kazakhstan.

Guldad, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA and deputy president of Afghan-Soviet friendship society and Chainkov [name as received], deputy chairman of the council of ministers of Soviet Socialist Republic of Kazakhstan were among those who spoke on the occasion.

AFP: Rebel Leader Purges Infiltrators*BK171557 Hong Kong AFP in English 1550 GMT 17 Apr 84*

[Excerpt] Islamabad, April 17 (AFP) — The Afghan resistance leader in Afghanistan's Panjshir Valley, Ahmad Shah Masud, has reportedly carried out a widescale purge, capturing about 50 secret police spies who had infiltrated his forces. According to Western diplomats here, the Khad agents were being held in Rokha, in the southern part of the valley, on April 4, to await trial. Some of them had been equipped with portable transmitters.

The guerrillas had been told to be on their guard against infiltration, according to a guerrilla source in Peshawar.

The Western diplomats also said that a highly placed Soviet official had indicated that the Red Army did not intend to launch another attack on the valley, which was said to be completely surrounded by Soviet-Afghan forces.

For the past month Mr Masud has been sending messages to Pakistan that Soviet forces were getting ready for a major offensive against the valley, from which the civilian population has already been evacuated.

Last week Soviet-Afghan forces carried out "mopping up" operations on the plain between Kabul and the southern entrance to the Panjshir, the diplomats said. The insurgents reportedly destroyed 15 armoured vehicles 10 days ago near Shakardara, where a fresh spate of night air raids had caused heavy civilian losses.

Resistance Chief Criticizes U.S., Iran*PM171051 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Apr 84 p 5*

[Patrice de Beer report: "Amin Wardak Criticizes Attitude of Iran and United States"]

[Text] Before returning to Afghanistan after visits to the United States and France, Amin Wardak, one of the Afghan resistance's military chiefs — he leads the mujahidin in Vardak Province,

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Lebanon

Security Setback — The disengagement of forces was not completed as scheduled on 23 April because deployment of Internal Security Forces in central Beirut was hindered by renewed fighting in which heavy weapons were used, Beirut radio reported. Security sources cited by the radio blamed the Phalangists for the security setback, in which one member of the Security Forces was killed, and affirmed that the "national" forces continued to abide by the cease-fire. Voice of Lebanon radio accused "Hezbollah" gunmen of initiating the clashes, adding that the Army in East Beirut retaliated and destroyed an opposition position.

Political Situation — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad discussed the situation with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, Damascus radio reported. The talks focused on efforts to realize national accord, the formation of a national unity government, and the movement toward "construction and liberation," the radio said. Karami subsequently told a news conference that Lebanon and Syria should adopt "one position" to defend "right" and liberate the south and expressed "appreciation and pride" in the Lebanese national resistance's daily struggle against the Israeli occupation forces, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Asked whether he will head the new government, Karami said this depends on both personal and constitutional considerations. Birri subsequently disclosed that the talks with Al-Asad touched on the level of participation of both Amal and the PSP in a national unity government, Beirut radio noted.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus after a brief visit to Riyadh where he conveyed a message from Al-Asad to King Fahd concerning developments in Lebanon, Damascus television reported. "Well-informed" sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio asserted that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Saudi Arabia on 26 April, although political sources cited by Beirut radio said that no date has yet been set for the visit. In another development, PSP leader Junblatt left Damascus after talks with Al-Asad and flew to Paris in response to an invitation from President Francois Mitterrand, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Israel

Arens Interview — The Israeli Government is not planning to attack Syria, Defense Minister Moshe Arens stated repeatedly in an interview broadcast by IDF Radio. "No Israeli government...will initiate a war against Syria," he asserted. Arens claimed that Israel is not undertaking any "special movements" in eastern Lebanon and added that it should not consider a preemptive strike "at this point in time."

Bus Take-Over — The IDF has not established a commission of inquiry to look into the events which followed the takeover of the bus in the Gaza Strip, nor is it investigating what happened to "the two terrorists who remained alive in the course of the bus take-over," Jerusalem television reported. The IDF is conducting a "routine debriefing" in connection with the incident, the report added.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

The peace with Israel is not only cold but is also "frozen" because of Israel's "intransigence," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stated in an *AL-AHRAM* interview reported by MENA. Nevertheless, Israel will try to improve relations with Egypt by initiating a resumption of bilateral contacts at a senior level, the Tel Aviv paper *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* disclosed.

Libya

A commentary on Britain's severing of relations broadcast by Tripoli radio warned that the action will "endanger" British interests in Libya and that the Libyan people "will not remain quiet in the face of injustice." At the same time the commentary stressed that relations are between peoples, not governments. In another commentary, JANA's political editor charged that the United States exerted "strong influence and pressure" on the UK to break off relations.

Iraq

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan heads an Iraqi delegation which left for Moscow on 24 April, INA reported. Ramadan said the visit is aimed at expanding economic cooperation but noted that he will also discuss the Iran-Iraq war with Soviet officials.

PLO Affairs

According to a press statement issued in Algiers following the "inter-Palestinian" meeting, the participants stressed their commitment to PNC resolutions, emphasized efforts to preserve PLO unity centered on resistance to plots to liquidate the Palestinian cause, stressed the importance of promoting Palestinian armed struggle, agreed to hold further meetings, and decided that the next PNC meeting will be held after agreement is reached on "political and organizational" issues, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* reported by QNA, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf disclosed that the Algiers meeting dealt only with political issues, noting that discussion of organizational matters was postponed until the next meeting. Khalaf also reported that the Fatah delegation to the Algiers meeting had indicated readiness to "clear up the atmosphere" with Syria.

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BAKHTAR Views Aims of Reagan's Trip to PRC
LD240813 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 23, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BIA writes:

Washington and Beijing are seriously engaged in working out the programme of the visit of Ronald Reagan, US President, to China.

Both United States and China widely propagate as if the aim of the visit is to step up their trade volume as well as to remove their existing problems as regards the exchange of goods.

It is appetizing to American monopolists to find new markets but it does not constitute the main objective of the visit.

It is clear cut that the major purposes of the visit are to equip China with the most modern American technology, to lay out strategic plans against the Soviet Union to create a strategic circle as well as to confront the national liberation movement with a deadlock especially in the continent of Asia as Reagan named Kampuchea and Afghanistan at the airport of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Ronald Reagan would strive hard to drag Beijing into the axis of Washington-Tokyo and Seoul. Contacts have already been made at lower echelons in this connection.

China has shown readiness to accept the remilitarisation of Japan contrary to all norms and standards promulgated after the second world war.

The visit will be leading to the escalation of tension and confrontation with Vietnam and three countries of Indochina.

U.S. and China will formulate the ways and means how to keep the half-dead counter-revolution alive by expanding the scope of their intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. As also, they study and discuss how to jointly expand the arming of Pakistan and to adopt a more hostile position against India.

It is to be pointed out that the last month's visit of China's president to Pakistan is linked with Reagan's visit to Beijing.

All these conspiracies take place under the scenario of the so-called "Soviet danger" for deceiving the public opinion.

However, the international situation is such that the secret facts of this new collusion will not remain concealed from the eyes of the people of the world.

PDPA Leaders Attend Army Meeting; Officers Promoted
LD240934 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] A message from the PDPA Central Committee on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution, which had been addressed to the DRA Army Staff, was read by Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and

secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at a meeting of the Army Staff in the conference hall of the National Defense Ministry today.

A BIA correspondent reports that the meeting was opened by a statement by Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of Army political affairs. Lieutenant General 'Abdol Qadar, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, then made a comprehensive statement concerning the historical importance of the April Revolution and the consolidation of the Army toward defending its gains.

At the conclusion, a decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium in connection with the promotion of 11 DRA Army officers to the rank of brigadier and the award of the Badge of the Red Banner to two Army officers in honor of the sixth anniversary of the April Revolution was read and their promotion cards distributed to them by the Ministry of National Defense.

The following officers have been promoted to the rank of Brigadier: Shaykh Mohammad, son of Mir Salam; Mohammad Akram, son of Sardar Mohammad; 'Abdol Rauf, son of Gholam Rasul; Moheb 'Ali, son of Mohammad 'Ali; Mohammad Amin, son of Mohammad Hakim; 'Abdol Samad, son of Sher Mohammad; Gholam Mohammad, son of Aminollah; Mohammad Khetab, son of Sher Mohammad; Fazl Ahmad, son of Saleh Mohammad; 'Abdol Sabur, son of Din Mohammad; and 'Abdol Wakil, son of Nasrollah.

The following officers were honored with the Badge of the Red Banner: Colonel 'Abdol Satar, son of Mohammad Yusuf; and Colonel 'Alawoddin, son of Ghawsoddin.

Karmal Emphasizes Party, State Discipline
LD230914 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 22, BAKHTAR — The international reaction has formed a black front of unholy alliance against the people of Afghanistan and has launched an undeclared war against the country from that side of the border from Pakistan as well as from Iran."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA CC, president of the Revolutionary Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the DRA, while inaugurating the central repair house of the Army on April 21.

Babrak Karmal added the Afghan people are now confronted with the undeclared war launched by the reaction of the region, international imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism in collusion with Chinese hegemonism, through the counter-revolutionary elements. "Right from the beginning of the April Revolution, we have striven hard to move the cause of revolution forward through peaceful means," Babrak Karmal said.

"We are well aware," Babrak Karmal pointed out, "that the oppressive and exploiting classes do not voluntarily renounce their evil interests."

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